

SECRET INVASION™

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43

THE NEW AVENGERS®



**BENDIS
TAN
MIKI
KEITH**

And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's Mightiest Heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born, to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

THE NEW AVENGERS

The New Avengers and Tony Stark have known there is a shape-shifting alien Skrull infestation on Earth, but they couldn't detect the Skrulls and now can't trust anyone to be who they seem to be. Including themselves.

When a Skrull ship crash-lands in the prehistoric area of Antarctica called the Savage Land, Tony Stark leads his team of Avengers on a chase to stop them...following Luke Cage and the "underground" Avengers, those who did not join Tony's new Initiative.

When both teams of Avengers get there the ship opens, revealing a shocking gathering of Marvel Heroes, icons from a more innocent time. These heroes declare that they have been held captive by the Skrull Empire and have just returned to Earth. But if these are the real heroes, then who are the Avengers that have been living here on Earth?

The standoff between the Avengers of yesterday and today bursts into violence and is only interrupted when Captain America appears from the Skrull ship. But Captain America was recently assassinated...or was he?

The invasion has begun...

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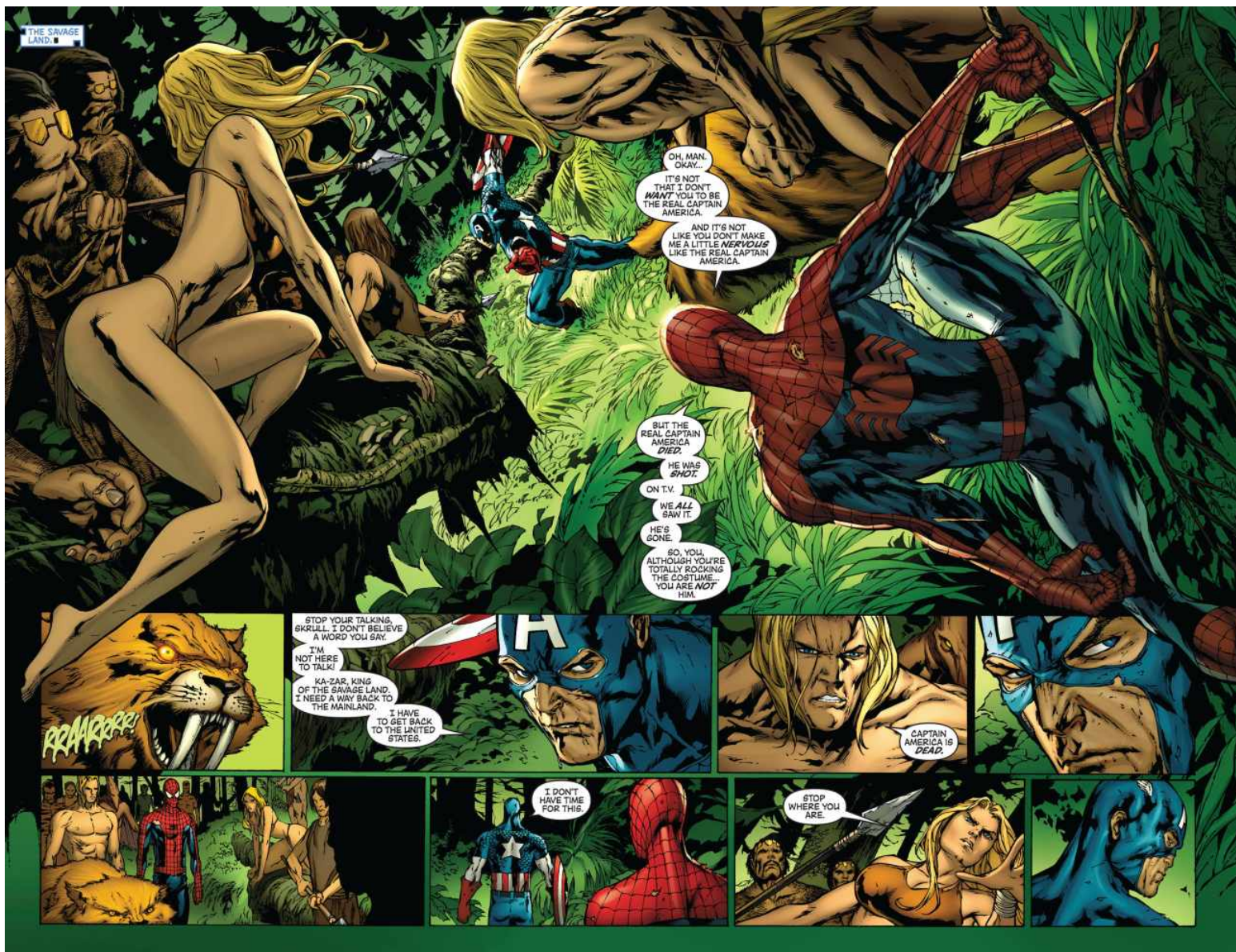
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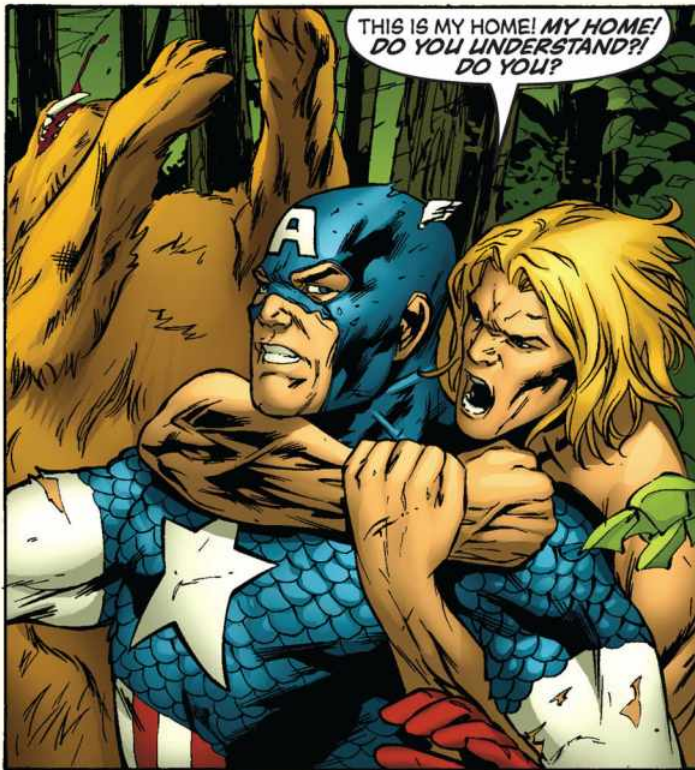
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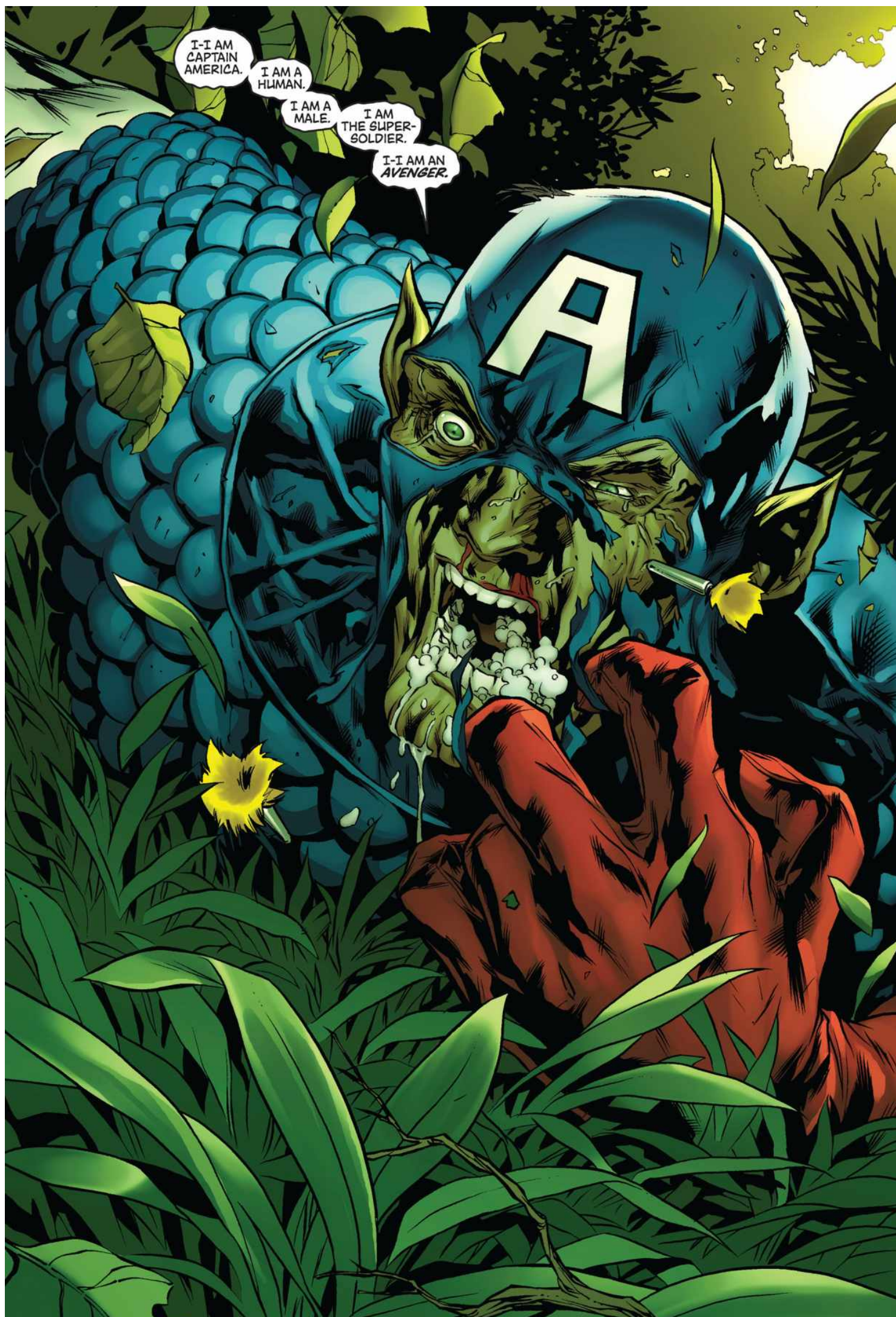












I-I AM
CAPTAIN
AMERICA.

I AM A
HUMAN.

I AM A
MALE.

I AM
THE SUPER-
SOLDIER.

I-I AM AN
AVENGER.



I KNEW IT!
YOU--YOU--
WHY ARE
YOU HERE? WHAT
DO YOU WANT
FROM US?!

DON'T
YOU PRETEND
YOU'RE NOT
ONE OF
THEM!



I'M
NOT!

YOU ALL
ARE!

FASMLINI!



I-I
AM CAPTAIN
AMERICA.



I'M NOT
ONE OF
THEM.

WELL,
WE'LL FIND
OUT, WON'T
WE?



I-I AM A...
HUMAN.



SNIKT

AGH!

STILL
PINK.



YEAH. AND
NOW IT'S BLEEDING
AND NUMB. THANKS
A TON!

I'M NOT
ONE OF
THEM.

WHAT DO
YOU WANT HERE,
SKRULL?

TELL US OR
WE'LL KILL YOU.
CAN'T PUT IT ANY
CLEARER THAN
THAT.



"WHAT IS
YOUR NAME,

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO.
SKRULL WORLD
SATRIANI ■

PITT'O NILI,
MY QUEEN.

MY FAMILY
WAS ON
PHALAX SIX.
THEY ARE ALL
DEAD NOW.

DOES MY
HUMAN FORM
DISGUST
YOU?

YOUR
EXCELLENCE?

IT
SICKENS
ME.
AND YOU
VOLUNTEER
TO TAKE A FORM
LIKE THIS? FOR
THE REST OF
YOUR TIME?

YES,
MA'AM.

WHY
WOULD YOU
DO THIS,
SOLDIER?

YOU
UNDERSTAND...
THIS IS A SUICIDE
MISSION. YOU
WILL NOT COME
HOME.

I
UNDERSTAND.

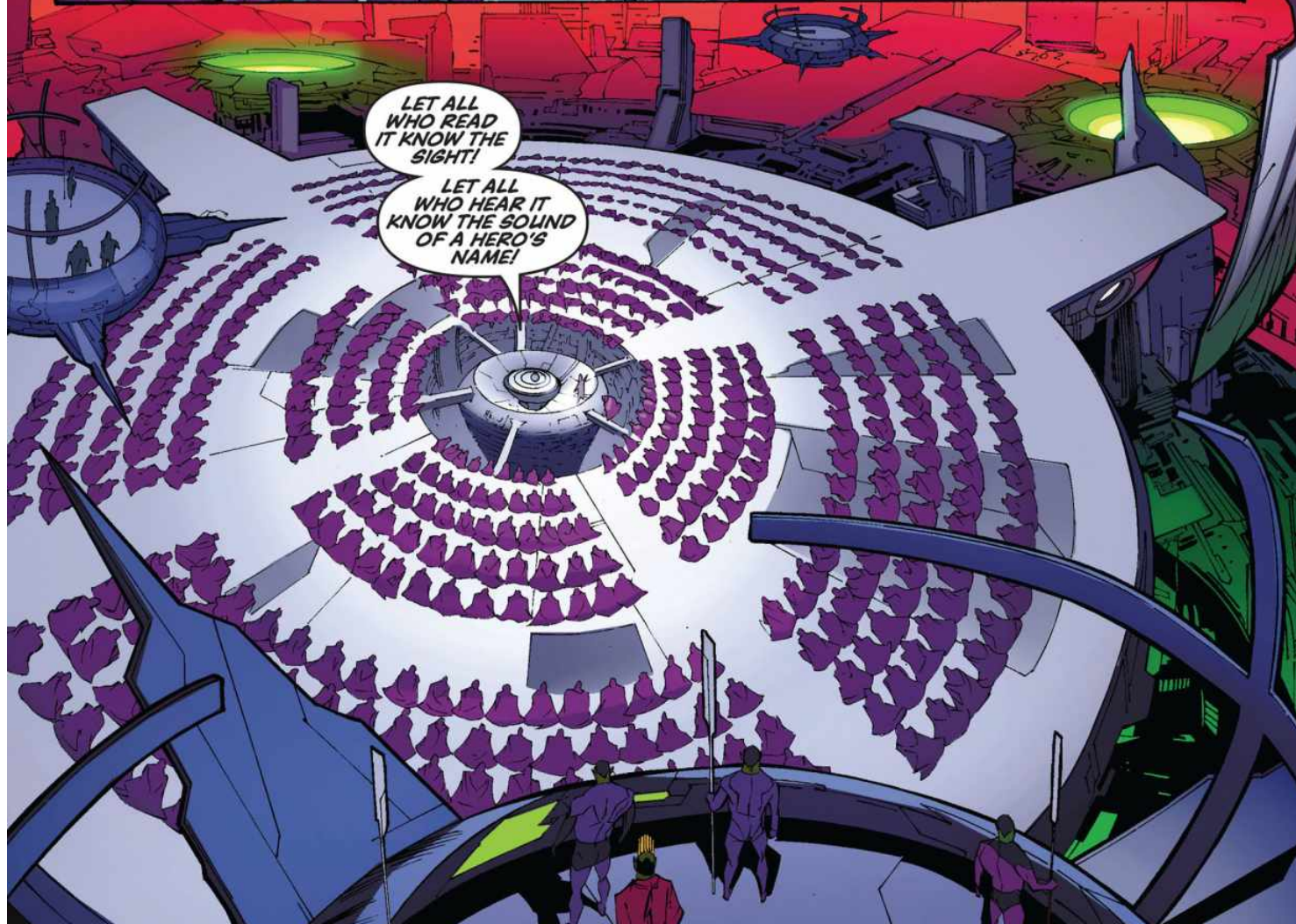
YOU WILL
NEVER SHIFT
BACK TO THIS
FORM.

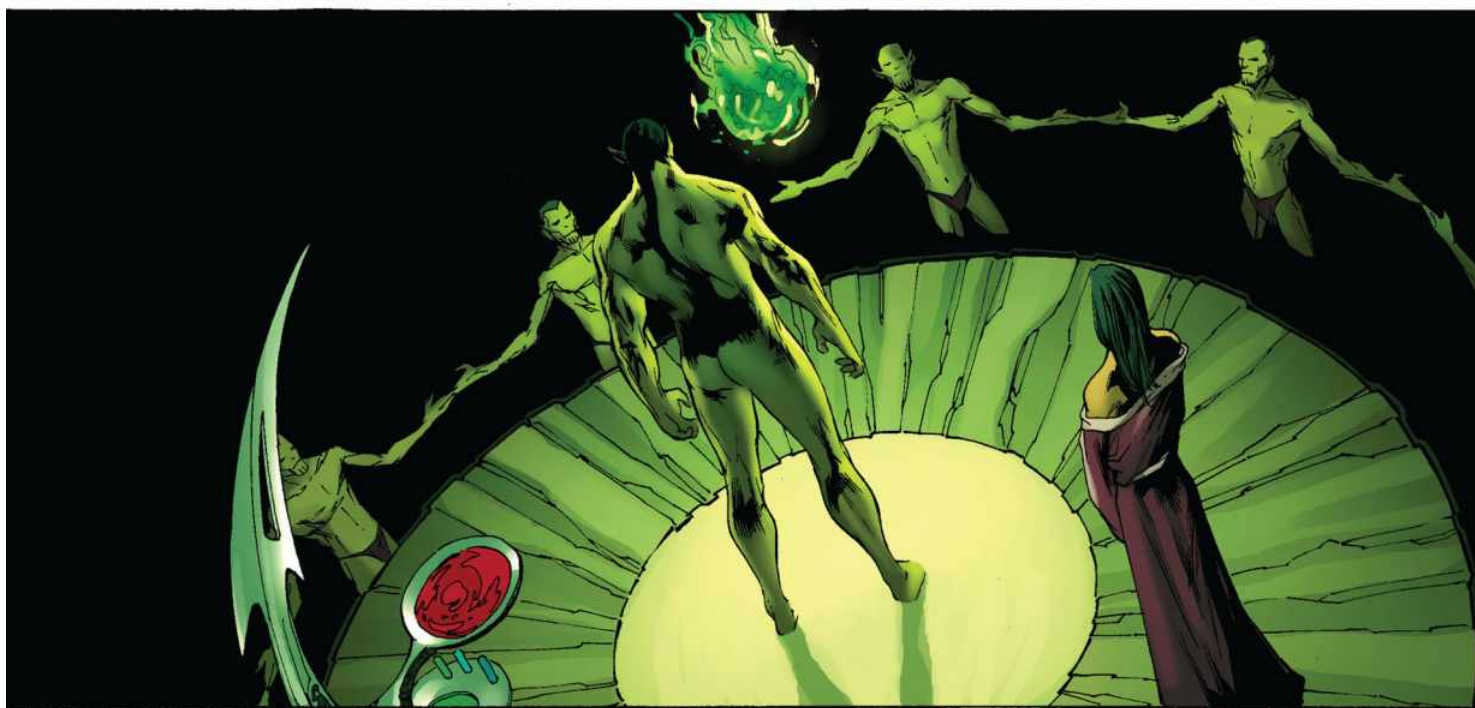
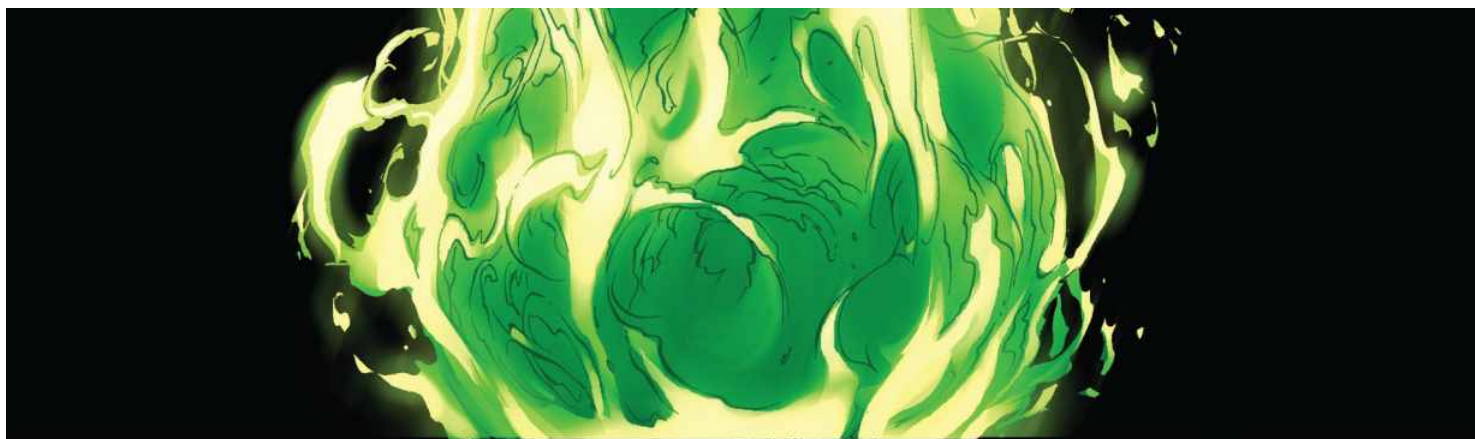
I
UNDERSTAND.

YOU WILL
NOT REMEMBER
YOUR BIRTH
NAME.

I
UNDERSTAND.

ALL OF YOU





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A

The blood of a human.
The blood of a male.
The blood of Steven Rogers.
The blood of Captain America.
The blood of an agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.
The blood of a mighty Avenger.



I am now a human.
I am a male.
I am Steven Rogers.
I am Captain America.
Agent of--



NO!
NO, I'M--
I'M HUMAN!
I'M PINK!
NNAGGH!



SETTLE.
NOOO!
PRIESTESS
OF THE MIND.
WE NEED YOUR
HELP.



SLEEP



THE ADJUSTMENT
CAN BE
JARRING.
HE'LL BE FINE ONCE
WE FILL HIS MIND
WITH HIS HUMAN
IDENTITY.
LET'S
HOPE.



BE AT
PEACE, BRAVE
SOLDIER.

LET HIS
MIND BECOME
YOURS.

EXCUSE
MY IGNORANCE,
MY QUEEN.

HOW DOES
THE PRIESTESS
HAVE THE MEMORIES
OF THIS CAPTAIN
AMERICA
HUMAN?



I DON'T HAVE THEM ALL.
I HAVE TONY STARK'S MEMORIES
AND I HAVE REED RICHARDS'...
BECAUSE OF OUR
RESEARCH.

AND THEN
I HAVE OUR
ARCHIVES.

FROM THERE
I CAN MAKE HIS MIND
BELIEVE IT HAS LIVED
THIS HUMAN'S LIFE.



I CAN
MAKE HIS MIND
WANT TO BELIEVE
IT.

WHAT
MUST THAT
BE LIKE?



OPEN
YOUR MIND AND
I WILL SHOW
YOU ALL.

OH
MY...

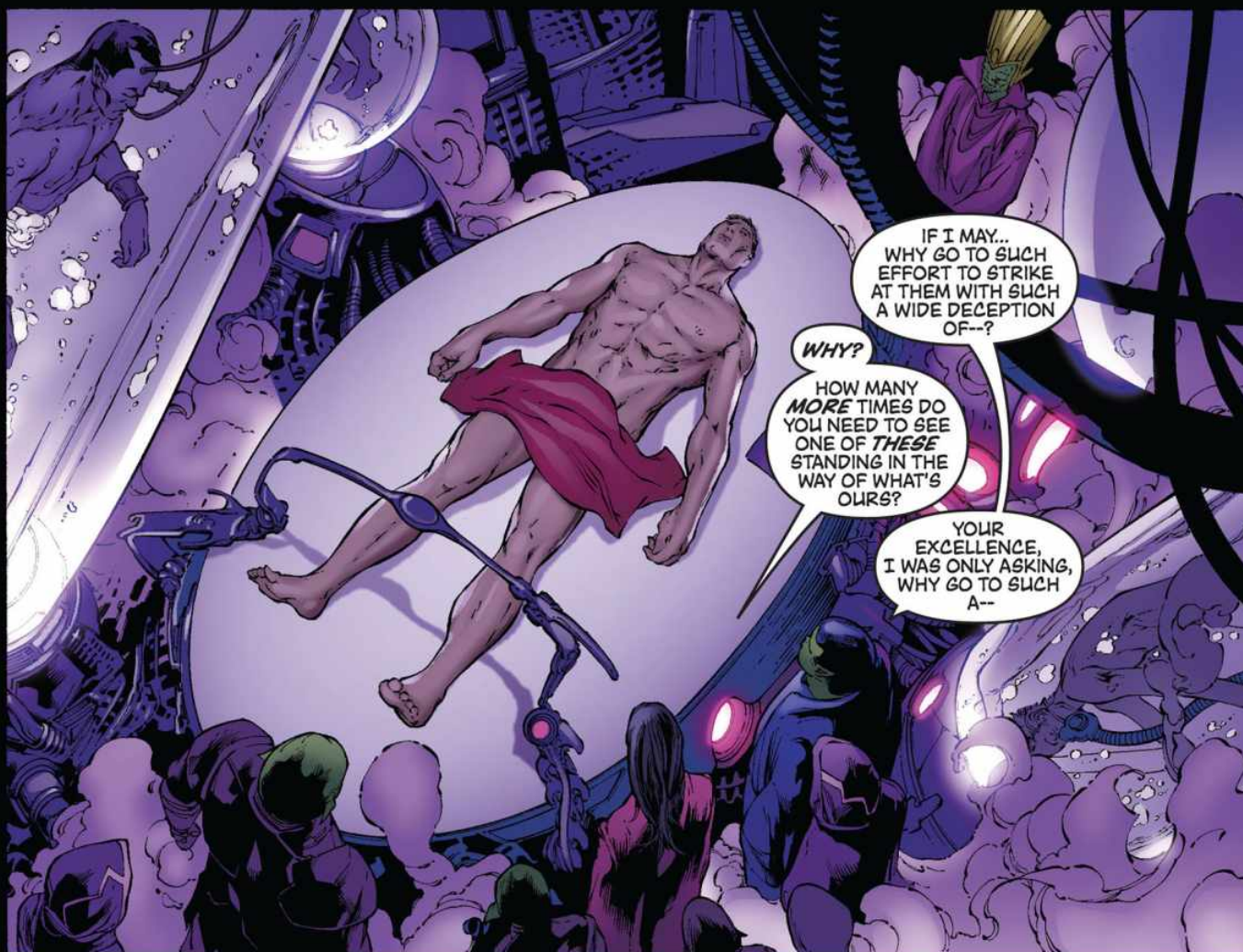
LOOKS LIKE
WE'VE BEEN
LED INTO AN
AMBUSH.

WHEN
WAS THIS?









IF I MAY...
WHY GO TO SUCH
EFFORT TO STRIKE
AT THEM WITH SUCH
A WIDE DECEPTION
OF--?

WHY?

HOW MANY
MORE TIMES DO
YOU NEED TO SEE
ONE OF **THESE**
STANDING IN THE
WAY OF WHAT'S
OURS?

YOUR
EXCELLENCE,
I WAS ONLY ASKING,
WHY GO TO SUCH
A--



BECAUSE A PHYSICAL DEFEAT
MEANS **NOTHING** TO THEM.

THEY DEFY DEATH.
THEY **DEFY** DEFEAT.

YOU BEAT THEM
DOWN, THEY RISE UP.
YOU KILL THEM, THEY
LIVE ON IN SPIRIT.



SO TO **TRULY** DEFEAT
THEM YOU DESTROY
THEM FROM **THE**
INSIDE OUT.

YOU MAKE THEM
DOUBT **THEMSELVES.**
THEIR FRIENDS AND
FAMILY.

MAKE THEM
LOSE SIGHT OF
THEMSELVES TO
THE POINT THAT
THEY DON'T KNOW
WHAT TO STRIKE
BACK AT.

THEN...
YOU
STRIKE.



YOU DAMAGE THEM
SO COMPLETELY
THAT EVEN IF **THE**
ENTIRE EMPIRE
LOST THIS
INITIATIVE--

--AND WE
WON'T--

--BUT
EVEN IF WE DID,
THE SHOCKWAVE
OF DAMAGE WILL
STAY WITH THEM
FOREVER.



THAT'S WHY WE GO
TO THIS TROUBLE.

THAT'S WHY WE FIGHT
WITH EVERY WEAPON
WE HAVE.



I'LL BE
LEAVING FOR
EARTH WITHIN
THE CYCLE.

PUT OUR
"CAPTAIN AMERICA"
WITH THE REST OF
OUR **"HEROES."**

MY WORD
WILL BE GIVEN









YEAH. AND NOW IT'S BLEEDING AND NUMB. THANKS A TON!
I'M NOT ONE OF THEM.



WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE, SKRULL?

TELL US OR WE'LL KILL YOU. CAN'T PUT IT ANY CLEARER THAN THAT.

I-I AM A... HUMAN.



COUNT OF THREE, ALIEN. WHO ARE YOU AND WHY ARE YOU HERE?!

I-I AM A... HUMAN.



RIGHT.

CHUCK

WHOA! WHY DID YOU--?!



BECAUSE A THREAT IS A THREAT AND A LIAR IS A LIAR AND I DON'T HAVE TIME--

BUT YOU--

THIS IS THE JUNGLE. NOT A MANHATTAN COFFEE--

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA



HUH.

MACHINEGUN FIRE.

SOUNDS LIKE IT'S COMING FROM THE CITADEL.

I SO BADLY WANT TO GO HOME.

WE'RE MOVING OUT. FANTANA MOOSOO.



WE'RE HEADING TOWARDS THE GUNFIRE?

YAY! THIS IS THE BEST DAY EVER!

NEXT ISSUE: THE REAL

MEGAN

